

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1-8, 11-24, 26-34, and 38-45 are pending in the application. The Applicant has amended claim 23. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Examiner Objections – Claims

The Examiner objected to claim 23 because of minor informalities. In response, the Applicant has amended claim 23 to correct the informalities. Therefore, the allowance of claim 23 is respectfully requested.

3.) Claim Rejections – Nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting

The Examiner rejected claims 1-2, and 33 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,775,266 to Furtenback (Furtenback).

In response, the Applicant is submitting a terminal disclaimer and associated fees. Therefore the allowance of claims 1-2, and 33 is respectfully requested.

4.) Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 19-24 and 26-32 have been allowed.

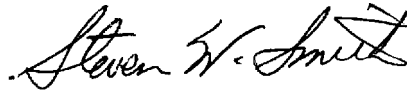
Claims 3-8, 11-18, 34, and 38-45 were objected to, but the Office Action did not detail why. The Applicant presumes these claims were objected to for depending from base claims rejected for nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting. As noted above, the Applicant has filed a terminal disclaimer to overcome the double patenting rejection. Therefore, the allowance of claims 3-8, 11-18, 34, and 38-45 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-8, 11-24, 26-34, and 38-45.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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